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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

MORIOKA, et al

Serial No.:

09/805,188

Filed:

March 14, 2001

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ANALYZING THE STATE

OF GENERATION OF FOREIGN PARTICLES IN SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION PROCESS

Group:

2877

Examiner:

T. Nguyen

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Mail Stop Fee-Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 13, 2003

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2003.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20 and 22 as follows:

1. (amended) A processing method for semiconductor devices in a semiconductor fabrication line, comprising the steps of:

processing a substrate in a first processing apparatus;

transferring the substrate processed in the first processing apparatus to a detecting apparatus without removal of the substrate from the semiconductor fabrication line while continuing fabrication of the semiconductor devices;